



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND TRAUMA SYSTEM

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**WASHINGTON STATE AIRWAY TECHNICIAN RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS  
(RETAIN FOR FUTURE REFERENCE)**

Airway Technicians may complete recertification educational requirements by completing either the *Continuing Medical Education (CME)* method or through a Department of Health (DOH) and county Medical Program Director (MPD) approved *Ongoing Training and Evaluation Program (OTEP)* method, which includes approved knowledge and skills evaluations.

**Educational Requirements:**

- 1. Annually complete and document the following required training:**
  - a. CPR and Airway management for adults, children and infants
  - b. Spinal Immobilization for adult, pediatric and geriatric patients
  - c. Patient Assessment for adult, pediatric and geriatric patients
- 2. In each certification period, complete and document training in the following *required* topics:**
  - a. Infectious disease prevention (annual OSHA/WSHA–approved, agency-required, infectious disease training meets this requirement)
  - b. Trauma
  - c. Pharmacology
  - d. Other pediatric topics
  - e. Additional education courses totaling 45 hours. Individuals obtaining education through the CME method must complete the number of educational course hours indicated. Due to the competency-based nature of OTEP, fewer class hours may be needed to complete this requirement than when using the CME method.

**Skills Maintenance Requirements:**

- 1. First Certification Period:**
  - a. Endotracheal Intubations: \*\*
    - i. First year of certification (4 must be performed on humans and may not be averaged)
      1. CME method - 12 successful endotracheal intubations
      2. OTEP method – 4 successful endotracheal intubations
    - ii. Second and third years of certification (4 each year must be performed on humans and may be averaged.
      1. CME method – each year, 12 successful endotracheal intubations
      2. OTEP method – each year, 4 successful endotracheal intubations
  - b. Demonstrate pediatric airway management proficiency
- 2. Later Certification Periods:**
  - a. Endotracheal Intubations (2 each year must be performed on humans and may be averaged over the 3 years)
    - i. CME - 4 successful endotracheal intubations
    - ii. OTEP - 2 successful endotracheal intubations
  - b. Demonstrate pediatric airway management proficiency

## **Examination and Certification Recommendation Requirements:**

### **1. CME Method**

- a. Pass a practical examination within six months of recertification.
- b. Pass the state *written* examination within six months of recertification. Three attempts are allowed.
- c. Obtain written recommendation for recertification from the county MPD and submit the completed and signed application to the DOH.

### **2. OTEP Method**

- a. Successful completion of the OTEP method fulfills the requirement of the DOH written and practical skills examinations.
- b. Obtain written recommendation for recertification from the county MPD and submit the completed and signed application to the DOH.

## **Description of selected terms used:**

- CPR includes foreign body airway obstruction and the use of airway adjuncts appropriate to the level of certification, for adults, children and infants.
- Pharmacology: Pharmacology appropriate to the level of certification and specific to the medications approved by your MPD.
- Other Pediatric Topics: This includes anatomy and physiology and medical problems including special needs patients.
- Endotracheal intubation: Proficiency includes the verification of proper tube placement and continued placement of the endotracheal tube in the trachea through procedures identified in county MPD protocols.
- Proficiency: Ability to demonstrate and perform all aspects of a skill properly to the satisfaction of the MPD or delegate.

**(Please keep all recertification documents for four years after each certification)**

**\*\* If you have completed a certification period as an Airway, IV/Airway, ILS/Airway technician or Paramedic, you do not need to meet this requirement during your first certification period, however the requirements for later certification periods must be met.**

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